The Central Government expects that the State Government of Bihar would look into the relevant cases immediately and take necessary action on the directions issued by the Patna High Court.

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसर

*318. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव :** क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्री 24 फरवरी, 1999 को राज्य सभा में अतारंकित प्रश्न 286 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसरों में वृद्धि करने के लिए वर्ष 1995-96 से 1998-99 तक केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों द्वारा प्रति वर्ष व्यय की गई सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों द्वारा प्रति वर्ष व्यय की गई तथा राज्य-वार की गई राशि कितनी –कितनी हैं,

(ख) रोजगार के अवसरों का सृजन करने सबंधी योजनाओं के लिए दी गई राशि से प्रत्येक राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रति वर्ष कितनी राशि ब्याज के रूप में प्राप्त की गई है, और

(ग) इस ब्याज की राशि के उपयोग के सबंध में दिए गए निर्देश तथा की गई कार्रवाई का ब्यौरा क्या है?

ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री राज्य मंत्री (श्री बाबागोड़ा पाटील) : (क)से (ग) रोजगार पैदा करने वाली योजनाओं पर वर्ष 1995-96 से 1998-99 तक केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकारों द्वारा व्यय की गयी राशि का वर्षवार और राज्य-वार विवरण अनुपत्र में दिया गया है । (देखिए परिशिष्ट 186, अनुपत्रसं. – 36) जिला ग्रामीण विकास एजेंसियों को इन योजनाओं के लिए सरकार से मिली निधियों पर ब्याज मिलता है । हालांकि जिला ग्रामीण विकास एजेंसियों को मिलने वाले ब्याज की ग्रामीण क्षेत्र और रोजगार मंत्रालय द्वारा मॉनीटरिंग नहीं की जाती है लेकिन ऐसे ब्याज के उपयोग से संबंधित अनुदेशों में यह निर्धारित हैं कि:

सामान्यत: जिला ग्रामीण विकास एजेंसियों को मिले ब्याज का उपयोग कार्यक्रम के संसाधनों में वृद्धि करने के लिए किया जाना चाहिए । मंत्रालय ने दिनांक 9.1.1996 के परिपत्र के अनुसार यह भी निर्णय लिया है कि जिला ग्रामीण विकास एजेंसियों को मिले ब्याज का उपयोग केवल मिनी आई टी आई की स्थापना पर होने वाले अनावर्ती व्यय को पूरा करने के लिए किया जाना चाहिए ।

Rationalisation of Tariff in Power Sector

*319. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister recently stressed the need for tariff rationalisation in the power sector, to make SEBs more viable and efficient;

(b) if so, whether Government have since examined the aspect of tariff rationalisation throughout the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of SEBs suffering losses since the past 3 years and the exact amount of losses suffered by them; and

(e) to what extent the power tariff rationalisation is going to help them?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI PR. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The establishment of Electricity Regulatory Commissions at the Centre and in the States under the ERC Act, 1998 is primarily aimed at rationalising electricity tariffs throughout the country. While State Electricity Regulatory Commissions have become fully functional in Orissa and Haryana, it is at various stages of implementation in most of the other States.

(d) The figures of surplus/deficit of all SEBs taken together for the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 with and without subsidy are given below:

Rs. in Crores.

Years	With Subsidy	Without Subsidy
1994-95	1125.36	-4360.80
1995-96	1237.53	- 6748.68
1996-97	833.03	- 6835.46

(e) The poor financial health of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) is *inter-alia* attributed to the irrational tariff structure. Rationalisation of tariff will improve their financial health.

Crimes in Trains

*320. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of crime in various trains particularly Express trains, have increased during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have formulated any strategy to check crimes in the trains; and

(d) if so, the full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) Available information in regard to incidents of crime in running trains, including Express trains, during the years 1997 and 1998 is given below:—

Sl. No	Crime Head	1997	1998
1.	Robbery in running trains	178	254
2.	Dacoity in running trains	72	109
3.	Professional poisoning in running trains	296	302
4.	Murder in running trains	11	22
5.	Theft of Mail in trains	48	51
6.	Sabotage on railways-explosion on rail track causing derailment and disrupting railway traffic	8	8
7.	Fraudulent diversion of railway wagons securing release of goods on bogus RRs, bogus parcel brokers at railway stations.	0	0
8.	Cases of wagon breaking, pilferage, etc.	0	0

The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes in running trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. However, the Central Government has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to take necessary measures to ensure the safety of passengers and their belongings during train journeys. The measures suggested by the Central Government include, inter alia, the need for regular meetings between the GRP and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), posting of mobile police force in running trains, improvement in coordination between the police escorts and the railway staff, removal of unauthorised hawkers, urchins and other undesirable elements, prompt registration of cases at the first place of reporting, investigation of cases of dacoity and robbery by State CID, maintenance of records of gangs and criminals involved in robberies/dacoities in trains, systematic analysis of crimes in trains, etc. The Railway administration has also taken steps to assist the GRP in checking criminal activities in running trains. These include sharing of intelligence between the RPF and the GRP, introduction of instant action groups in superfast trains to prevent entry of unauthorised persons, assistance by the RPF in escorting passenger trains during night, joint strategy involving the RPF and the GRP to deal with anti-social elements operating in trains, etc.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Revised Note of Royalty on Coal

2326. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the rate of royalty on coal for the block-period 1995-2000.;

(b) if not the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some proposals in this regard have been received from Maharashtra, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (d) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised on 11.10.94. In terms of the proviso to section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, the Central Government is empowered to enhance royalty rates on coal not more than once during any period of three years. There is no compulsion to revise the royalty rates on coal every three years. The Central Government has the option to keep the royalty rates on coal unchanged as was done during 1981—91.